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Crypto: Hidden or Secret, from the Greek kruptos meaning hidden

"A science of qualities is necessarily a first-person science that recognizes values as shared experiences, as states of participative awareness that link us to other organisms with bonds of sympathy, mutual recognition, and respect."
Brian Goodwin, How the Leopard Changed its Spots : The Evolution of Complexity
(Charles Scribner's Sons, New York; 1994)

Artist Rendition of the Lake Worth Monster by Bobby F. Brooks (circa 1969)
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"Eye Shine" Why and How

By: Craig Heinselman

In the last few months there have been several posts on various e-mail based discussion groups about the phenomenon called "eye shine". This is the reflective nature of light off of some animal's eyes. Although, at first it may not seem a subject of Hominology, when put in the contexts of reports of Bigfoot (or similar creatures) exhibiting this condition, then the subject does have a place. These reports, although they do occur, are not one of the most common occurrences. But, what causes this condition of "eye shine", and why does it occur, and what correlation could it have to the area of Hominology?

Before an understanding of the cause and reason for the "eye shine" condition, an overview of the function and anatomy of the eye is needed. For the sake of simplicity, the discussion at hand will deal with mammalian eye make up, as although other animal groups do have a similar anatomy there are some differences. Even in mammals there are slight differences in the eye makeup, many on a chemical or cellular level. Chief among these differences is the ability to see color and the ability to see in low light. To understand the differences it is important to understand how the human eye works, and from that a derivative can be made to other mammalian species.

The eye itself is composed of various components. The wall of the eye is made up of three different areas, the sclera, the cornea and the canals of Schlemm. Each has a different purpose. The sclera is the white membrane that keeps the eye its shape, it in turn is connected to a series of muscles that allow for the movement of the eye. These muscles being the medial rectus, inferior rectus, lateral rectus, inferior oblique, superior oblique and superior rectus. The cornea is the component at the front of the eye that is usually colorless and transparent, and it is through this that light waves pass. The canals of Schlemm offer a series of small sinuses to drain fluid from behind the cornea.

The middle layer of the eye is made up as well of various components, known as the uvea when spoken of as a group. Within this collective are the components of the uvea, the choroid, ciliary body and the iris. The ciliary body is made up of a muscle that aids in the function of the lens of the eye. The choroid acts as a blood supplier to other areas of the eye as well as preventing the reflection of light inside the eye with the help of pigmented granules. The iris in turn is attached to the ciliary body and contains the pupil. The pupil is but an opening in the eye itself that allows for light to enter the eye, and this light is controlled by the musculature of the iris. The iris is also the portion of the eye that is colored. This coloration is what gives us blue eyes, grey eyes and every other shade imaginable due to pigmentation. The deciding factor of eye coloration then relies on the individuals genetic makeup, this affects the two layers of the iris that create the coloration. The rear layer contains a blue pigment, while the front layer contains either no pigmentation of black pigmentation, called melanin. Depending on the level of melanin the eye color varies. If no melanin is present then the eyes are blue. If no pigmentation appears in either layer, than an albino condition of pink is present.

The innermost area of the eye is made of the retina. It is made of very specialized cells called receptor cells. These receptor cells come in two different forms, rods and cones. The fibers of these receptor cells form further back in the eye as the optic nerve that is crucial to the brains recognition of an

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image. The receptor cells each serve a specialized purpose in the area of sight. Rods are cylindrical in nature. Within the rod is a portion that contains a photosensitive chemical known as rhodopsin that aids in the filtering of low level lights. The cones are more conical in shape and are crucial for color recognition and intense light filtration. There are currently three forms of cones known, each unique due to a specialized photochemical pigment, these being erythrolabe, chlorolabe and cyanolabe. When light passes through the components of the eye, these rod and cone photoreceptors are stimulated and the information is relayed to the brain to form the image seen.

Now, to understand how the eye recognizes light and hence images, and to lead to why "eye shine" occurs, the physics of vision need to be looked at. Light is foremost a form of energy, radiant energy, As light travels from one source to another in can be refracted, that is bent. The refraction bends the light at a different angle. This refraction is important in the ability to see, as the curvature of the eye is such that a refraction of the light allows the light to be aimed into the retina, although some light will be lost in the process. In doing so the image seen is inverted and compacted, similar to what occurs when a picture is reflected in a mirror. These properties of light refraction apply both in bright light, like daytime, as well as dark light, like nighttime, as well as intermediate lighting such as the conditions at dawn and dusk.

In the typical eye, that has no added component than stated prior, an image and image recognition is lessened as light levels drop. Try walking into a room with no lights on from a room with all the lights on. For a short time everything will be dark and out of focus. This is called nigh-blindness and is caused by the eye not getting enough light. However, in a short spell (though in some people it does not due to vitamin deficiencies) limited image recognition will return, a process called dark adaptation. Within the photoreceptor called the rod, the chemical rhodopsin is the cause of dark adaptation. In bright light this chemical is damaged, but when the light is lowered the chemical reforms. Vitamin A allows for this to occur, and if this vitamin is diminished the return of vision in the dark is slower. The opposite occurs when going from a dark room to a lit one.

Now, in a species that lives a nocturnal existence or partial nocturnal existence the ability to recognize images as prey, predator and safety is essential. To allow for more light, certain species have adapted another component in the eye, it is located on the retina and is called the tapetum lucidum. This tapetum essentially allows for a doubling of the light. With the aid of a white mirror like substance called guanine, light passing through the retina is bounced back, allowing for two passes of the light. This bounce back of the tapetum lucidum is what appears as the "eye shine" in these animal species.

In primates the prosimians (primitive primates such as the lemur and aye-aye) exhibit such a feature as the tapetum lucidum. While the great apes do not. Likewise many other animal species in far ranging groups show this characteristic, to most it will be most familiar in a household pet like the cat. Even humans, who do not have this tapetum, do possess a limited "eye shine" that can be seen in red eye images in some photographs.

Now the question of whether or not such a creature as Bigfoot, if it does in fact exist, could see in color comes up at times as well. The problem here is that color recognition comes down to chemical properties in the eye as well as the presence of the photoreceptor cones. Additionally all mammals that posses color vision have a small indent on the retina called the fovea in which these cones are organized.

As was mentioned previously the cones are made of three distinctively different types of pigments, erythrolabe, chlorolabe and cyanolabe. Each it has been thought correlates to a color blue, green or red. These pigments react through chemical functions and create the color vision people see. The lack or inhibition of one or more of these pigmentation cones causes the various forms of color blindness. The strength of the light also plays a part in the color recognition, for example a light

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wavelength of 5000 to 5500 angstroms generates a green color, while one of 6750 to 7000 creates the red color. Factored in as well are the elements of hue, brightness and saturation that enhance or diminish the intensity of color depending on the viewing conditions and distances.

The color vision ability can be drawn to one thing, if a fovea is present than the likelihood of color vision to some extent is also present. This is not a hard and fast rule, but a good guide. For example the great apes posses a fovea, and in al likelihood have a form of color vision, while the douroucouli (*Aotus trivirgatus*) or the night monkey from South America does not have a fovea (or any cones for that matter) and so cannot posses color vision.

That is the crucial point. Color vision is much more specialized for a daytime existence, for at night the ability to see color is minimized due to insufficient light. To adapt to the insufficient light some species have the tapetum lucidum to allow for enhancement of the light. Despite this adaptation, many of these species also adapt enhanced hearing and smell as well as varied vision (like enlarged eyes and varied positions of the eyes on the head).

As for a connection to Hominology subjects, at this time, no steadfast attribute can be applied. It can be fairly safe to say that if Bigfoot exists it is a form of primate (this includes the possibility of a relic humanoid), and to acquire this tapetum would make it an even more amazing discovery indeed. However, the possibility of color vision is more likely to occur. If humans and great apes possess color vision, to some extent, but do not posses a tapetum lucidum, and it is extracted that Bigfoot is a type of primate akin to a great ape or human, then the correlation to these primates can be loosely made.

The ultimate answer though as to what kind of vision these creatures may have cannot be described as of yet. A specimen would be needed, and to identify the vision capabilities it would have to be a relatively new specimen with the eyes intact, as the information needed cannot be preserved in a skull, only on the living tissue.

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Game Time : Cryptoseek

Answers to the July 1999 Cryptoseek puzzle.

1) Sasquatch (J4 to J12)
2) Agogwe (J5 to O5)
3) Coelacanth (O3 to O12)
4) Paddler (K8 to E 14)
5) Tatzelwurm (Q9 to H18)
6) Waitoreke (C1 to K1)
7) Marozi (C3 to H8)
8) Heuvelmans (C18 to K18)
9) Sanderson (K18 to S10)
10) Minhocao (T1 to T8)
11) Yeti (N19 to Q19)
12) Buru (D10 to G10)
13) Pangboche (F2 to N2)
14) Zuiyo Maru (S1 to S9)
15) Piasa (H3 to L7)
16) Fouke (I8 to E 12)
17) Bunyip (P1 to P6)
18) Onza (B12 to B15)
19) Kamchatka (B2 to B10)
20) Ogopogo (R5 to R11)
21) Thylacine (S12 to S20)

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T
1 Z S W A I T O R E K E A C E G B Q V Z M
2 Y K E K S P A N G B O C H E K U F S U I
3 A A M A D Z D P D A E T A D C N C A I N
4 T M D A C E R G I S Q W E J O Y A K Y H
5 I C F Y R S D T H A G O G W E I D O O O
6 Z H G N G O A K J S S D A H L P Q G M C
7 C A T H N A Z N L Q D A J S A G W O A A
8 A T H N E N A I F U P H N N C E Z P R O
9 B K L B B A D O A A Z H G J A D T O U S
10 O A Y B U R U A D T D H H D N A A G N U
11 M N L D M K M D A C O A S J T F D O B X
12 I O Y J E D L A H H Z A S Z H Q S A T C
13 Q N T Y U E H E L M N S E K L R H B H A
14 N Z R E R A A D G H H L M H E A A T Y Y
15 S A T E B S D R D A W G E D A V B G L T
16 A T H Y A M H R D U A S N D N M L V A Z
17 B C Y P T C A H R B A A B A D H K J C B
18 E H E U V E L M A N S Q H E R D S K I A
19 U Q A R V C X Z S G J H O Y E T I T N A
20 L A G O G S A S C O E L A R E K A B E S

Congratulations to our winners:

First Prize went to Gilbert (Gil) Wald of Bridgewater, New Jersey (USA)
Second Prize went to Andre Merten of Berlin, Germany
There was no third place winner

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September 1999's Cryptoseek Puzzle:

Rules:

Below are six trivia questions. The first letter of each correct answer fills in the six-letter word in the box below the questions. One question has been answered as a hint additionally a hint for the six letter word is below the box. For example:

1) The first letter of the English alphabet is what?_____**A**_____
2) If something isn't old, it is called what?_____ **New**_____
3) Wood comes from what?_____**Trees**_____

A	N	T

Hint: A small insect that children sometimes burn with magnifying glasses.

The winner will be determined by the first submitted correct answer to the puzzle and quiz. Likewise the second and third place winners will be determined by their arrival dates. Acceptable ways of sending the completed Cryptoseek puzzle are via e-mail, postal letter or fax sent to the editor. The contest ends at midnight October 1, 1999 (EST).

The Prizes:

1st Prize - Autographed copy of Sallie Ann Clarke's The Lake Worth Monster. A 1969 self published paperback book
2nd Prize - A VHS copy of the CZ movie The Crater Lake Monster
3rd Prize - A Coelacanth key chain and Bigfoot stickers

The Cryptoseek Challenge:

1) The natives of Nunivak Island call this animal Pal Ra Yuk. What do the natives of King Island Call it?_____
2) This African creature is described as being semi-aquatic, and having a large horn on the end of its muzzle or snout. Translated it's native name is akin to 'Killer of Elephants'. What is the name of this animal?_____**Emela-ntouka**_____
3) Dmitri Bayanov coined this word that deals with the study of unknown forms of homi-nids?_____
4) The last name of the author of such early works as Exotic Zoology and Salamanders and Other Wonders?_____
5) What is the name of the creature reportedly seen by Paddy Freaney, Sam Waby and Rachelle Rafferly on January 20, 1993?_____
6) This possible adapted saber-tooth cat from Guyana (South America) may have two names, the first Maipolina. What is the four lettered word for its second name?
_____

	E				

Hint: This is another name for the Pyar-them.

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News Note: Annamite Rabbit and Kin

In the August 19, 1999 issue of *Nature* a paper describing an apparently new species of rabbit from the Annamite Mountains of Laos was presented. This new species, with no scientific designation as of yet, has had DNA studies performed. These results show that the genetic structure of this Annamite rabbit is sufficient to separate it from the its closest known relative, a rare rabbit from Sumatra, the Sumatra short-eared rabbit (*Nesolagus netscheri*), although morphologically the two rabbits are very alike, with distinctive stripes and coloration. Hence, this new rabbit from Laos will in all likelihood become the second member of the genus Nesolagus.

The Annamite rabbit was found by researchers of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) who have been vital in the discovery, or rediscovery of several new mammal species in Laos since 1991. Included in their resume are the saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*), the giant muntjac (*Megamuntiacus vuquangensis*), and the Vietnamese warty hog (*Sus bucculentus*).

Robert Timmins spotted the rabbit in a market at Ben Lak, Laos, where three specimens were for sale. Tissue was sent to the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England to Dr. Diana Bell, and latter Alison Surridge performed genetic tests on the tissues. These tests are what showed the unique nature of this rabbit, and hinted that the Annamite rabbit and its cousin the Sumatra short-eared rabbit although closely related are divergent populations, separated by nearly eight million years. Since the initial find at the market in Ben Lak, the rabbit has been photographed in the wild. Yet, like its Sumatran kin, little is known of the habits and biology of these *Nesolagus* rabbits.

Both members of the genus Nesolagus exhibit four striking stripes. These stripes are of a brownish color and stretch from the tail to head, from the shoulder to the tail, from the rear leg to the tail and from the shoulder to the front legs. Also present is a reddish coloration to the fur at the tail and rump, making a strong contrast between the brownish stripes and the gray fur elsewhere. Both species likewise show a similar body size of around 16 inches in length from nose to tail and short ears of around 2 inches in length. How abundant the species are remains unknown, the last known sighting of the Sumatra short-eared rabbit occurred in 1998, wherein photographs were obtained by Fauna and Flora International researchers.

Image of the Sumatra Short-Eared Rabbit
Image Source: Trinh Viet Cuong/ Fauna & Flora International - Indochina Programme
Image Used USC Title 17 ß 107

Image of the Annamite Rabbit
Image Source: WCS
Image Used USC Title 17 ß 107

Sources:

Surridge, Alison, Timmins, Robert, Hewitt, Godfrey & Bell, Diana, Stripped Rabbits in Southeast Asia, *Nature 400*, August 19th, 1999

New Species of Striped Rabbit Found in Asia, *Reuters*, August 18, 1999

Bizarre Stripped Rabbit Discovered in Asia, *WCS Press Release*, August 18, 1999

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News Note: Kachemak Bay Squirt

A possible new species of sea squirt has been found in the Alaskan bay of Kachemak near Homer, Alaska. Charles and Gretchen Lambert, experts on the sea squirt are retired researchers from the University of California in Fullerton.

In the fall of 1998 a group of Smithsonian Institute researchers collected samples of a squirt while studying the arrival of non-indigenous species to North America by way of ships. After the Lamberts received the samples for analysis they contacted a member of the Fish and Wildlife Service in Soldotna, Alaska named Gary Sonneville in order to obtain more samples. After evaluating these, they felt that something was definitely there, and with confirmation from a Russian ascidian expert (a sample supplied to him by Gary Sonneville) on a similarity between a Kamchatkan species, but a distinctiveness, they headed to Alaska.

Gretchen Lambert and the Kamchatkan scientist are intending to put a paper together in the next year or so, describing this species. They feel that based on the evaluations of the species, 30 odd years of experience and extensive searches of taxonomic monographs that the species is new. A name has been proposed, however it will not be revealed until the papers ultimate publication.

Source:

Lambert, Gretchen, Personal communication August 23, 1999
Phillips, Natalie, Scientists Hit "Jackpot: With New Sea Creature, *Anchorage Daily News,* August 10, 1999

News Note: New Zealand Big Cats?

New Zealand is far from being known as a haven for mystery felines, with nearly all its current mammalian species being introduced in the last few hundred years, the presence of a large or medium sized feline predator would have to be an introduced one.

On July 14, 1999 two tourists from Great Britain, Mark and Deborah Greening, witnessed and photographed what they believe to be a medium to large black cat. The couple was driving from the area near Omarama towards Queenstown, when they spotted an animal in the underbrush. After passing the animal the couple turned back and came within 30 meters (90 feet) of the animal. After a short spell the animal moved on, and at this time a photograph was taken from a distance of around 50 meters (150 feet). The image did show what appeared to be a blackish animal, but it was indistinct and with no real size comparisons on view. Deborah Greening described the animal as:

"It was the size of an Alastian dog, but a bit longer in the body."

Are big cats now prowling the wilds of New Zealand? Perhaps, there are domesticated cats in New Zealand, which do become feral at times. Is it then possible that a larger pet cat has become a wild feline in the country?

The report of July prompted some earlier sightings to crop up, for instance a teacher named Marianne Daines reported that in 1996 in the area of Twizel she saw an animal. About the size of a Labrador dog, black in color, but moving like a feline. This animal was sighted at around 30 meters (90

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feet). Another resident of the area, a farmer from Lindis named Bill Cowie has seen bob tailed cats in the area and has had several hens killed in the past by a large cat.

Although perhaps large felines like mountain lions and panthers are not in New Zealand, the presence of large feral cats could be. For instance Ettrick farmer, Howard Campbell believes that the animal photographed by the Gennings in the Lindis pass was his cat. The animal, named Tiger, ran off over two months ago and was partially wild before that. Weighing over 7 kilograms, this "Tiger" was known in the past to go on rabbit hunting trips for days at a time. However, with the release of rabbit calicivirus (RCD) a few years ago to quill the rampant population of rabbits, any felines in the area would have had to adapt to a different diet. With farming a staple of life, it is then no wonder why some of the local farmers have reported sightings of large animals and the lose of animal stocks.

What is present in the wilds of New Zealand? Failed introductions in the past did include zebras, so did someone at one time try to introduce a large feline? Or is the answer simply the "Tiger" and his family are the culprits, large cats with an appetite for wandering and hens.

Sources:

Fea, Sue, Caught on Film: the Lindis Pass Panther, *The Southland Times*, July 16, 1999
Williamson, Kerry, Big, Mean Moggies on the Prowl in Mackenzie Country, *Otago Daily Times* (*Dunedin, New Zealand*), July 17, 1999
Earlier Sighting of Big, Black Cat, *The Press of New Zealand*, July 17, 1999
Big Cat May be Missing Moggy, *The Press of New Zealand*, July 20, 1999
Big Cat my Tiger, *The Evening Post* (*Wellington, New Zealand*), July 20, 1999

News Note: Javan Rhinoceros

In July 1999 photographic evidence of a small population of the critically endangered Javan rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*) was obtained in the Dong Nai Province, less than 100 miles from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The Javan rhinoceros is further divided into two known subspecies, *Rhinoceros sondaicus sondaicus* in Indonesia and *Rhinoceros sondaicus annamiticus* in Vietnam, with a third subspecies Rhinoceros sondaicus inermis thought to be extinct from India, Bangladesh and Myanmar.

Although the Javan rhino is known from the Ujung Kulon National Park in Java, the photographic evidence obtained in 1999 suggests that a small, perhaps no more than ten individuals, lives in the Cat Tien National Park in Vietnam. Bringing the estimated word population of these animals to less than 100 wild animals.

Historically the Javan rhino was distributed across Vietnam, and hunted there into the 1920's. However the last rhino was seen in northern Vietnam in 1964, despite the fact that locals have reported tracks and sightings of the animals. In 1988 a female rhino was shot near the Dong Nai River in the area near what is now known as the Cat Tien National Park. Still reports circulated of possible sightings and tracks, including at least on series of tracks found by researchers near the area in which the images taken by remote operated cameras.

Proof at last that at least a small population still exists in Vietnam. Reaching up to two tons, this is far from a diminutive animal. A truly remarkable discovery of an animal, however with so few animals present, the dynamics of a sustainable population are still in question. The finding of these rhinos does show that large animals can hide quite well in an area.

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Sources:

Information from the World Wildlife Fund's website
Hebert, H. Josef, Long Thought Extinct, *Associated Press*, July 19, 1999
Wren, M., News in Brief: Javan Rhino, *Jules*, Unedited article submitted to cz@onelist.com
e-mail cryptozoology discussion list on July 18, 1999
Unknown to Science, The Mammals that Time Forgot, *The Independent* (*London*), July 17, 1999

Images of the Remotely Photographed Javan Rhinoceros from Cat Tien National Park in Vietnam
Image Source: Mike Baltzer/WWF Cat Tien National Park Conservation Project
Image Used USC Title 17 ß 107

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News Note: Bessie-cam

Like the Loch Ness Live video feed from Loch Ness in Scotland, North America's Lake Erie has a live feed from the shores of Ontario, Canada since June 4, 1999. Bessie-cam is a scaled down model of the Nessie-cam, using only one camera with a refresh rate of 15 minutes. But, the idea is the same. A video card captures the image and then sends and converts the image to a graphic file that can be uploaded to the internet. Bessie-cam can be found at http://www.aps.on.ca/main.html , the site also has some information on the history of the Lake Erie creature as well as a listing form an 800 number to report information, 1-888-596-9226.

News Note: South China Tiger

The South China tiger (*Panthera tigris amoyensis*), thought to be extinct in the wild since the last specimen was shot by poachers in 1994, may still survive in a small pocket of country the Jiangxi province. In a forest reserve of the province a claw was recently confiscated of what may well be from one of these tigers. Other hints come from the possibility of locals of the area reporting cries of a tiger at night. None of this is very conclusive, but it does offer perhaps a glimpse of hope that the South China subspecies will not vanish like some of its relatives like the Caspian tiger (*Panthera tigris virgata*) thought extinct since the 1970's.

It was back in July 1999 that another hint of the tigers survival was spurred, when a farmer was killed by a cat attack. Yuan Honghua was killed on June 4, 1999 while walking along a road near the village of Fengchan in the Jiangxi province. The wounds were such that officials believed the attack was by a tiger. The tiger in question could be one of three types, a Siberian tiger (*Panthera tigris altaica*), an Indonesian tiger (*Panthera tigris corbetti*) or the South China tiger. The first two sub-species, although they may range into China their known ranges do not include the area of Jiangxi province, whilst the South China tiger's range was in this area in the past. Taking into account the ranges, and relying on the wound actually being caused by a tiger, the most likely culprit would be a South China tiger. This is of course s unproven, and will remain so until a specimen is obtained or more definitively identified.

Currently there are around 56 captive South China tigers in China only. With three cubs being born in February 1999 at the Suzhou Zoo.

Sources:

Only 53 South China Tigers Left, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, November 27, 1998
Year of Tiger ends in Little Roars, *Associated Press*, February 21, 1999
Wild South China Tiger May not be Extinct, *Beijing Youth Daily*, August 2, 1999
Chinese Farmer Killed by Tiger, *Associated Press*, July 9, 1999

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Cryptofiction

The Beast of the Yungas

Story by Willis Knapp Jones (1927)

As proof that Cryptofiction is not a new subject, but has been around longer than the term cryptozoology and cryptid, a short story that originally appeared in the September 1927 issue of *Weird Tales* is presented. Within this tale of superstition, fear and irony is a search for a legendary creature from the Beni region of Bolivia, thought to be that of a *Diplodocus,* and what befalls an expedition that succeeds in finding such a creature alive in modern times.

Presented in a narrative reiteration of an explorers tale at a dinner party by the head of the expedition, a shadowy figure named Mr. Winslow. The story takes a view of native reports of this creature described as a *Diplodocus* and then turns the tale over to the expedition prompted by a mysterious committee from Mr. Winslow's home country that read of the incidents and asks him to investigate the matter. So begins the journey, with a collected group of individuals like native transporters, an enigmatic fellow named Manion a scientist named Jenkins, in search of the truth behind the native stories.

The journey takes the expedition into uncharted lands, where the natives had never seen a white man before and whose native language was virtually unknown to any of the expeditions members. A valley is finally reached within the Beni region and is an isolated locked area:

"It was a sunken plain, about twenty or thirty miles square and full of that riot of vegetation which must have covered the earth when the diplodocus roamed it, for they ate only grass. You know how La Paz is situated - a sheer drop of one thousand feet below the surrounding plain. Well, this region was something like it, except that it had no exit, no river winding out of it, no path up the slope - only straight, sheer cliffs."

A true lost world, unexplored and unreachable protected by sheer cliffs and filled with vegetation.

But, what of this creature described as a *Diplodocus*? The *Diplodocus* was one of the members of the sauropod group of the Mesozoic Era. This group of long necked, stocky bodies and long tailed dinosaurs included such famous examples as the *Apatosaurus* better known by children as the *Brontosaurus*. These so called *Diplodocids* differed from other variations of dinosaurs that superficially appeared similar. Having long necks and tails and surpassing other similar groups, like the *Brachiosaurs* (which include such creatures as the *Brachiosaurus, Euhelopus* and *Opisthocoelicausia*) which possessed long necks with corresponding long front legs and a shorted tail than the *Diplodocids*. And corresponding to the story line, the *Diplodocus* was a vegetarian and exceedingly large.

Reports of possible dinosaur survival are not a new subject matter, and it is no wonder that Willis Knapp Jones wrote this story in 1927, wherein the legendary fictional book The Lost World by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle appeared only a decade or so earlier in 1912. In that story, much like in this Jones story an expedition is put forth, made up of natives, scientists and lay people to seek out and undiscovered world. A world filled with prehistoric life still surviving into modern times. During this same period of time, prior to the Great Depression and during the "roaring twenties" an upwelling of interest in exploration and discovery was at hand.

Despite the fact that we know dinosaurs once lived in the areas now known as South America, what are the possibilities of such animals still surviving there? In Africa much attention has been paid to

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the *Mokele-mbembe*, with numerous expeditions over the past few decades in search of this creature, and more in the planning stages now. But South America has some reports of dinosaur like creatures within its vast forests, although these reports are perhaps surpassed by the incidents suggesting various Ice Age megafauna live on in various areas of this continent.

Incidents prior to 1927 are on record, the most famous being the report by Franz Herrmann Schmidt from October 1907. In this incident, Schmidt came upon an isolated area of valleys and swamplands. Schmidt and his companion, Rudolph Pfleng, happened upon a group of large tracks in the area, along with sighting browsing areas on the overhead trees far exceeding 10 feet from the ground. Within the next few days, an encounter with the purported creator of the tracks happened. A large animal was seen with an elongated neck and short head, however instead of standard legs, present where clawed flipper like appendages. This incident occurred on the Solimoes River in Columbia. Whether the incident is true or not does not matter in the evaluation of a fictional story, rather it adds credence to the incidents and history behind writing the fictional account. Though historically South America is lacking in reliable accounts of possible sauropods, this may not be the fault of the land and its people, but rather the lack of research into this continent.

Back to the story. In the course of events, the mysterious Manion (who ironically was engaged to a member of the party in which Mr. Winslow is telling the story, and whose real name is Jimmy Kent) climbs a ladder to the base of the valley. Intending to spend the night there to see what the incidents are all about. His demise, and the fear associated with the unknown at the central theme of the story itself, completes the clues as to what actually lived in the valley and the nature of the creature itself.

"The I picked up his footprints, far apart, slipping and dodging as though he had been running. The reason for his haste was not apparent until I saw in the muck the mark of a gigantic foot. About ten feet further on was another, and in between the trail of a heavy tail.

:...And his body - not a sign of a bruise or hurt upon it, the only mark, a messy green slime on one hand, as though an animal has slobbered over it."

So the story comes to a close, with the fear of death and the unknown locked into the enduring explorer Winslow from finding the body of Manion. The clues indicate a large creature with strides of 10 feet that does not eat carrion (in this case Manion) or act as a carnivore, in other words a herbivore. A creature with an immense size, enough to scare a man to death, who was strong and sure in the case of nature, having previously killed a 28-foot boa constrictor earlier in the expedition.

What sort of known creature could create such fear in a man, and at the same time leave tantalizing clues to its existence? But, as in all good fiction, the answer is shrouded in mystery, a mystery as deep as the valley that contains Manion's body and vegetation a plenty to feed the unknown.

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Norma, David, Dinosaur!, Macmillan, New York, 1991
Shuker, Karl P.N., In Search of Prehistoric Survivors, Blandford, London, 1995

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Reviews:

Note: All reviews by Craig Heinselman unless stated otherwise.

If your looking to purchase one of these books, known sources that carry them are listed by each title. Additionally use the ISBN number and order it through a local bookstore in your area (always best to support local merchants if possible). Additionally a five star rating system has been utilized, the highest rating is henceforth five stars ★★★★★ and the lowest rating one star ★ These ratings appear next to the publisher, year and length of item (as applicable to media being reviewed).

Nessie : The Surgeon's Photograph - Exposed
Authors: David Martin and Alastair Boyd
ISBN 0 9535708 0 0
Martin and Boyd, Herts (Great Britain), 1999, 100 pages, £4.95 ★★★★
Available through Amazon.UK at www.amazon.co.uk

Written by two researchers of Loch Ness lore, the small book details the history of the infamous 1934 photograph dubbed "The Surgeon's Photograph". This image has been published and republished countless times in regards the cryptozoology and hoaxes, been analyzed and evaluated based on weather conditions and wave locations and photographic tampering. But, what is presented here is not an analysis of the photograph itself, rather an analysis of the people potentially responsible for the creation of this photograph.

Filled with historical anecdotes and first person interviews with relatives of the people involved, and in some instances the actual people reportedly involved with the photograph hoax. The book chronicles evidence for a purposeful and planned hoax, played out and covered up to the world for nearly 60 years.

Regardless of the readers idea of the voracity of the image so mundaned in popular culture and peoples minds, the book offers the reader various anecdotal evidence for a hoax. From an analysis of the reported photographers, Robert Kenneth Wilson, varied stories on the location and incident leading to the photograph over a coarse of some 50 years to the history behind Marmaduke Wetherell's revengeful intentions prior to 1934. The book is filled with historical detective work, offering a strong case against the authenticity of the "Surgeon's Photograph."

However, the book does not doubt at all that the image is a hoax, with no thoughts as to the possibility or to the analysis that has been done on the photograph. These analyses are but touched on, and then stepped gently aside. Putting the emphasis on the historical evidence and interviews, and hence on people and not on data. Humans are known for off beat observations and changes in stories over time, this is human nature, a fuller investigation would have at least dealt with the data analysis in some detail. Rather they rely strictly on documentation such as personal communications, news articles and interviews of relatives and associates who knew the persons involved many years ago, or in the rare case an actual person involved over half a century ago. So 90% of the information is covered, give or take, but the remaining portion is left hanging.

Regardless, the book is an excellent historical record, and it never goes out of its way to destroy the possibility of a Loch Ness Monster, only a single photograph and story.

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A Wild Moose Chase

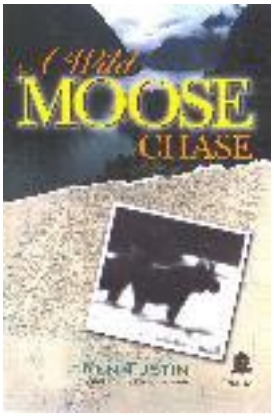
Authors: Ken Tustin
ISBN 0 9583723 0 6
Wild South Books, Dunedin (New Zealand), 1998, 224 pages, $29.95 9NZ $) ★★★★★
Available through Wild South Books. Order by phone to New Zealand at 0 800 4 94537 or e-mail sales@wildsouth.co.nz . Web site http://www.naturalhistory.co.nz/books.htm .

Ken Tustin, a former government researcher and hunter for the New Zealand Forest Service, and now a helicopter pilot, presents a concise and thorough history of the North American moose in New Zealand, the Fiordland Moose. Having spent a large part of the 1990's searching the Fiordland area for signs of moose, he is by all estimates the leading researcher of this enigmatic animal in New Zealand with a history going back nearly 30 years in regards to the moose.

Starting with a historical background as to why and how the moose were brought so far from their North American homes and continuing to the few successful moose hunts from the second and third decades of this century. A thorough history is presented in a stylish narrative that invokes the raw beauty and wildness of the New Zealand ecosystem. From the biological impact the introduced myriad of species played in the Fiordland area, to the success of the government hunters and latter commercial meat hunting, the areas history and legacy is laid out for the reader.

More so though is the presentation of the hunt itself, and the clues collected of the possible survival of a small population of these moose in the wild. From tracks, scat, tree rubbings, beds and a blurred video image, the evidence is shown. And although it may not be conclusive, it is thought provoking.

A narrative exploration of a mysterious island chain, isolated and unique, but that may harbor a group of large mammals, known elsewhere but unknown to survive there. So read along with the monologue of Tustin and his wife's exploits, and view the area as they have with the detailed color photographs of the land. And while at it relish in the rare images of actual Fiordland moose killed earlier this century, the clues uncovered and the blurred images of a video tape. See if at the end you do not have a larger respect for the land, and perhaps, just perhaps, an idea of the possibility such a land can hide.



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***Endangered Species* Magazine Volume 1, Issue 1, September 1999**
ISSN 1442-682X
Edited by Terry Sellards, Published by Michael Catchpole ★★★★★
$4.95 US at the select newsstands (try Barnes & Nobles Bookstores)
Subscriptions $17.80 US by phone 1-800-310-7047 or *Endangered Species* Magazine, PO box 500, Missouri City, TX, 77459-9904.

This new conservation magazine deals with the threatened or endangered species of the planet. This first issue marks the start of high scale quarterly magazine with a large editorial advisory board of conservationists from the World Zoo Organization (WZO) and the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG). Among these editorial advisors are Chris Larcombe, Dr. Philip Miller, Professor Roger Wheater, Jeremy Mallinson and Anne Baker, all told the represent three different continents of the planet and varied disciplines from ecological management, to genetic management to zoological reform.

The emphasis on the magazine is to show the animals behind the moniker of Endangered Species and to show how people are trying to help them, but also to show how perilous these animals are to the edge of extinction. Presented in commissioned articles and photographs, the imagery throughout the book shows a raw beauty to the animals covered.

Certain articles in the first issue cover some of the species that have been in the news as of late for rediscovered populations. Among those are articles on the rhinoceros entitled *Ghosts of Out Future* by Gretchen Jamieson, with photographs presented by SOS Rhino, and *Year of the Tiger Reviewed* by Kathy Traylor-Holzer. With the recent discovery of a new population of Javan rhinoceros, and the spotting of the Sumatran rhinoceros earlier this year in India, the article about the conservation of these rhinoceros (including the other species such as the black rhino, Indian rhino and the white rhino) offers insight into the future. While the recent discovery of a possible South China tiger claw and the incident earlier this year where a farmer may have been killed by one such tiger ties in to the conservation theme of the *Year of the Tiger Reviewed* article, which covers the Sumatran tiger, Siberian tiger, Bengal tiger, Indo-Chinese tiger, and South China tiger.

Continuing through the magazine other animal groups are covered. From Australia's western swamp turtle (*Pseudemydura umbrina*), which was only rediscovered after being thought extinct in 1953. Even a select group of animals from the *Red List of Threatened Animals* is presented, a thoroughly eye opening section. This list of 5205 animal species, also has a smaller listing of 911 species which are classed as critically endangered, or in other words they are virtually extinct in the wild. Included in the first listing five animals are presented, the Mediterranean monk seal (Monachus monachus) with an estimated 650 animals left, the Yangtze River dolphin (*Lipotes vexillifer*) which was only described in 1916 now numbers at around 100 animals, the Scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) with an unknown wild population, and the Ethiopian wolf (*Canus simensis*) with less than 1000 animals in the wild. Lastly the Tasmanian tiger or thylacine (*Thylacinus cyncocephalus*) is included as an extinct species, but although listed as extinct the section article does mention some of the animals possible survival, and that scientific opinion has it that they are extinct but that sightings are still investigated.

This new magazine does not dramatize the decline of species, rather presents them for all to see with a no holds barred approach. With a high level of review and clean editing, the stories are crisp and clear, and when viewed with the images the wild comes alive, and the hope for the future of these animals stays true.

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Classifieds & Miscellany

Your request for information and materials may be printed for free. Submit any requests to the editor along with address and e-mail. If you do not wish to have your address printed, the editor will with hold it and requests will be handled through the editor. A fee will be charged for commercial listings within the classifieds, however any organization or similar themed publication will be listed free of charge. Contact the editor for specifics regarding commercial and/or organizations and publications listings.

Wanted:	**Wanted:**
More than a Myth: The Search for the Monster of Muskrat Lake by Michael Bradley (Hounslow Press, Willowdale (ON, Canada), 1989 Gary Campbell 9 Burn Brae Place Inverness, Scotland IV2 5TA NESSIE5@aol.com	Any English fictional novel or short story having a cryptozoological theme. Children's literature, juvenile literature or adult literature. Craig Heinselman 135 Elm St, Apt. 81 Milford, NH USA 03055 cheinselman@msn.com

Your help is needed for an upcoming issue. An open forum is to be presented dealing with religious views and their relation to cryptozoology or science in general. This does not necessarily mean the typical creationism versus evolutionism. Rather it can cover any religious viewpoint, be it Wiccan, Buddhism, Judaism, Catholicism, Protestant, Mormon, or any other. Even atheist and agnostic views are welcome. This is being presented in an open manner to show if and how these views affect cryptozoology and science from the direct viewpoint of those who hold these views.

The next edition of Crypto will be out in October of 1999.

If you wish to submit an article or other item for publication, contact the editor for guidelines:

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